

LESSON 3

INTRODUCTION TO JOINT WARFARE

“No matter where we fight in the future, no matter what the circumstances, we will fight as a Joint team. We will have fingers on the team that are individual Services, but when it comes to the fight, we want the close, clenched fist of American military power. The days of single Service warfare are gone forever.”

—Adm. David E. Jeremiah, USN

Lesson Introduction

Throughout the history of the United States, the military has conducted Joint operations. In some cases, these operations have been very successful, but others have lacked coordination among the participating units. Still others have been punctuated by confusion and received public criticism.

World War II thrust the United States into a situation requiring a military structure to provide strategic direction to the war effort. In 1942, a united high command established the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff. This group functioned throughout the war without legislative or presidential direction.

The National Security Act of 1947 formally established in law the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Numerous changes to the original act have since followed, and, as you know, the most wide changes resulted from the Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1986.

This lesson, which focuses on Joint warfare, presents the concepts and values the Armed Forces of this nation need to fight and win as a Joint force as well as to function effectively together day to day. As members of the U.S. Armed Forces, you have examined and will continue to examine the nature of warfare through study of the best-tested and most up-to-date insights of the finest theorists, historians, and practitioners of war. As you learn about the nature of warfare in the modern era, you will find it is synonymous with Joint warfare.

Requirement 1

Objective 1. Understand the fundamentals of Joint warfare. [JPME Area 1(a)(b)(e), 2(a)(b), 3(a)(c) (d)(e), 4(e)]

Objective 2. Understand how theory and principles of war apply at the operational level of war. [JPME Area 3(b)]

Objective 3. Understand the primary command and control structures used in Joint and multinational operations. [JPME Area 1(b)(c), 4(c)]

Read:

- Joint Military Operations Historical Collection, pp. v thru xii (8 pages)

View:

- DOCNET segment, *Joint Warfare* (1 hour, 43 minutes). Refer to Joint Pub 1, *Joint Warfare of the Armed Forces of the United States*, pp. I-1 to I-9; II-1 to II-6; III-1 to III-17; IV-1 to IV-11; V-1 to V-11; VI-1 to VI-6; VII-1 to VII-6; VIII-1 to VIII-5

Concepts fundamental to Joint warfare have been derived by applying the general principles of war to the specific context of Joint warfare. These fundamentals are particularly relevant and pertinent today within the Joint warfare arena, and as you read through this lesson, it is important to understand how these fundamentals are woven into the principles of war.

Joint Warfare Fundamentals

- Unity of effort
- Concentration
- Initiative
- Agility
- Extension
- Freedom of action
- Sustainment
- Clarity
- Knowledge

Principles of War

- Objective
- Offensive
- Mass
- Maneuver
- Surprise
- Security
- Simplicity
- Unity of command
- Economy of force

You will discover that American military power is employed under Joint commands. As you read through and study this lesson, it is imperative that you understand the capabilities and limitations of the U.S. military forces. Keep in mind that when the United States undertakes military operations, the Armed Forces are only one component of a national-level effort. That total national effort includes the following elements of national power:

- Economic
- Diplomatic
- Informational
- Military
- Political

As you study Joint warfare, keep in mind that a good probability exists that any military operation undertaken by the United States will have a multinational and interagency aspect. This is because of the extensive network of alliances, friendships, and mutual interests established by our nation around the world. It is impossible to bring the other elements of national power to bear without interagency cooperation and coordination. All this will become readily apparent as you examine the Desert Storm case study.

Requirement 2

Objective 4. Comprehend the changes presented in Joint Vision (JV) 2020 that will affect the U.S. Armed Forces in the 21st century. [JPME Area 1(e), 5(d)]

Objective 5. Comprehend the four operational concepts JV 2020 is built upon. [JPME Area 2(b), 5(d)]

Read:

- *Joint Vision 2020*, pp. 1 to 3, 6 to 11, and 20 to 27 (17 pages)

CJCS Vision

Dedicated individuals and innovative organizations transforming the Joint force for the 21st century to achieve full spectrum dominance: Persuasive in Peace, Decisive in War, Preeminent in any Form of Conflict.

—Joint Vision 2020

There is still a tendency in each separate unit... to be a one-handed puncher. By that I mean the rifleman wants to shoot, the tanker to charge, the artilleryman to fire...to get harmony in battle, each weapon must support each other. Team play wins."

—Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., USA

The principles of war provide guidance to warfighting at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels, and they are the enduring bedrock of U.S. military doctrine. *Joint Vision 2020* provides the conceptual template for the manner in which the U.S. will channel the vitality of its people and leverage technological opportunities to achieve new levels of effectiveness in Joint warfighting.

Full-spectrum dominance is the key term in “Joint Vision 2020.” Full-spectrum dominance means the ability of U.S. forces, operating alone or with allies, to defeat any adversary and control any situation across the range of military operations. While full-spectrum dominance is the goal, the way to get there is “to invest in and develop new military capabilities.” The four capabilities at the heart of full-spectrum dominance are **dominant maneuver, precision engagement, focused logistics, and full-dimensional protection**. These terms were introduced in JV2010 and continue as the foundation of JV2020.

JV2020, the new document focuses on three factors as central to success in these four operational concepts and the resulting capability of full-spectrum dominance:

- Interoperability: Success across the full range of military operations requires interoperability among the Joint force, multinational partners, and the interagency.
- Innovation: Broad-based innovation is the key to transforming the capabilities of the Joint force.
- Decision Superiority: Information superiority will enable Joint command and control to be transformed in order to enable our commanders to make better and faster decisions than their opponents.

Requirement 3

Objective 6. Comprehend how Joint warfare evolved and was practiced during Operation Desert Storm. [JPME Area 2(b), 4(d), 5(d)]

Read:

- *The Generals’ War*, Chapter 3 (19 pages)

Chapter 3 is certainly not the only chapter in *The Generals’ War* that shows how Joint warfare evolved or was practiced by U.S. forces in the Gulf region. In fact, later chapters provide better insight. Chapter 3 does demonstrate how forces began flowing into the theater and how some of the Service parochialisms blended with Service cooperation. It is quite amazing how the United States accomplished what it did, in terms of deployment of troops and materiel halfway around the world. This feat is especially noteworthy when one considers that the congressional mandate for Services to become more Joint and the fact that the increase in power of regional combatant commanders came only four years prior to Operation Desert Shield. Again, as you read *The Generals’ War* during this course, consider the rough edges behind Joint warfare as it was

practiced during the Gulf War, and compare that knowledge with what you know about how Joint warfare is currently practiced. Then ask the question, “Have we improved?”

Lesson Summary

“As we consider the nature of warfare in the modern era, we find that it is synonymous with Joint warfare.”

—Joint Pub 1, *Joint Warfare of the Armed Forces of the United States*

Joint operations and warfare doctrine reflect the nature of modern warfare and the strategic requirements of the nation. Introducing students to the concepts and fundamentals of Joint warfare will unquestionably enhance their capability in future assignments as members of, or working closely with, other services as part of a Joint force. As you continue through the 8803A lessons, you will discover that Jointness recognizes the fundamental and beneficial effects of teamwork and unity of effort and the integration of military operations in time, space, and purpose at the operational level of war.

JPME Summary

AREA 1					AREA 2				AREA 3					AREA 4					AREA 5			
A	B	C	D	E	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	E	A	B	C	D	E	A	B	C	D
X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X				X